

GLOSSARY of ACRONYMS

ABCDE	Airway, Breathing, Circulation, Disability, Expose
ABC	Airway, Breathing, Circulation
ACLS	Advanced Cardiac Life Support
ALOC	Altered Level of Consciousness
ALS	Advanced Life Support
amp	ampule ; amperage; ampere
ASA	aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid)
ASAP	As Soon As Possible
AV	atrioventricular ; arteriovenous
AVPU	Alert Verbal Painful Unconscious
BG	blood gases; blood glucose
BLS	basic life support
BP	blood pressure
BVM	bag valve mask
cc/kg	cubic centimeter per kilogram (this is equivalent to mL/Kg)
CHF	congestive heart failure
Code 3	ambulance running lights and sirens - EMERGENCY
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CPR	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
CRT	capillary refill time
CVA	cerebrovascular accident
DHEC	S. C. Department of Health and Environmental Control
DS	dextro stick
Dx	Diagnosis

ECG	Electrocardiogram
EKG	Electrocardiogram
epi	Epinephrine
ET	Endotracheal
ETA	Estimated Time of Arrival
ETT	Endotracheal Tube
GCS	Glasgow Coma Scale
GI	Gastrointestinal
GU	Genitourinary
Hg	mercury
HR	heart rate
Hx	History
ICP	Intra Cranial Pressure
IM	Intramuscular
IO	Intraosseous
IV NS	intravenous normal saline
IV	Intravenous
IV NS KVO	intravenous normal saline, keep vein open
J	(Joule) mechanical equivalent of heat
J/kg	joules/kilogram
joules	mechanical equivalent of heat (j)
JVD	jugular venous distention
KVO	keep vein open
Lido.	Lidocaine
L/min	liter per minute

LOC	loss of consciousness, level of consciousness
LR	lactated ringers
MAST	military antishock trouser (Also referred to as "PASG", pneumatic antishock garment).
mcg	microgram
mEq	milliequivalent
mg/dl	milligram per deciliter
mg/kg	milligram per kilogram
MI	myocardial infarction; mitral insufficiency
mm Hg	millimeters of mercury (a measurement of pressure)
NP	nasopharyngeal
NPO	nullo per os (nothing by mouth)
NRB	non-rebreather (mask)
NS	normal saline
OD	overdose of narcotics
OP	oropharyngeal airway
PEA/EMD	pulseless electrical activity/electrical mechanical disassociation
PEA	pulseless electrical activity
PO	per os (by mouth); used in writing prescriptions
PPV	positive pressure ventilation
PR	pulse rate; per rectum (by rectum)
PRN	as needed
Pt	patient
PVC	premature ventricular contraction

q	Each or every; used in writing prescriptions, often with a number indicating the hours between doses - e.g. 1 pill Q 8 hours PO
QRS	QRS complex-series of deflections in an electrocardiogram that represent electrical activity generated by ventricular depolarization prior to contraction of the ventricles
Rx	Treatment or medication
SBP	systolic blood pressure
SC	subcutaneous
SIDS	Sudden Infant Death Syndrome
SL q	sublingual every _____
SOB	short of breath
SQ	subcutaneous
SVT	supraventricular tachycardia
TPA	tissue plasminogen activator
tx	treatment; traction
VS	vital signs
V. Tach.	Ventricular tachycardia
V. Fib.	Ventricular fibrillation
VF/VT	ventricular fibrillation/ventricular tachycardia